

Thursday, November 16, 2017 • V94 / N12

Missouri aims to legalize marijuana

KATIE STEVENSON

News Editor | [@Ktiesstevenson](#)

Missouri lawmakers are looking to put the legalization of marijuana on the next 2018 ballot.

The Missouri Marijuana Legalization Initiative may appear on the ballot November 6, 2018. The initiative would remove marijuana from the state's list of controlled substances, legalize marijuana for recreational and medical use, allow for the sale of marijuana and immediately release all prisoners incarcerated for nonviolent marijuana-related crimes. It would also forbid the state from using state funds to enforce federal marijuana laws that conflict with state marijuana laws.

According to Governing.com, 29 states and the District of Columbia currently have laws broadly legalizing marijuana in some form, most for medical use. Seven states and the District of Columbia have adopted the most expansive laws, legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

According to the Journal of American Medical Association, little more than one percent of the U.S. adult population uses marijuana based on a clinical recommendation, whereas 12 percent of adults use marijuana for recreational purposes. However, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the legalization of the drug has decreased the number of overdoses on Opioid and was shown to have noticeable effects on seizure disorders, such as epilepsy.

But, the legalization of medical marijuana raises concern for local Maryville law enforcement. Nodaway County Sheriff Randy Strong said his department already has issues related to the drug and he believes legalizing it would cause more harm than good.



ANNASTASIA TUTTLE | PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Missouri lawmakers are looking to put the legalization of marijuana on the 2018 ballot. This would remove marijuana from the state's list of controlled substances, and legalize marijuana for recreational and medical use, allow for the sale of marijuana and release all prisoners incarcerated for nonviolent marijuana-related crimes.

"You will see an increase in traffic related accidents, you will see an increase in calls for police services, you will see an increase in calls for children's division helping parents who are using this and are fired and out of work," Strong said. "So they are not working and doing other things, but not taking care of their children and you're going to have a loss of income."

Strong gathers most of his information from Colorado and other states which have legalized marijuana.

"I base this off of cases out of the state of Colorado where they are dealing with these issues, but these issues aren't really being made public because of the pro-legalization people," Strong said.

The biggest push toward legalization of marijuana, both medi-

cally and recreationally, lies in the belief it will bring in more tax revenue. However, Strong states it is more likely to hurt the economy than stimulate it.

"People think this is going to bring in tax revenue when in fact it is probably going to hurt the state more dealing because they will be dealing with more crimes related to marijuana," Strong said. "This will cause an increase in cost of

all of the service providers like police and the children's division that the state has to pay for has suddenly come to the forefront."

However, a Northwest junior, who only wanted to be known as Ruby, believes legalization of the drug would help increase job revenue.

SEE MARIJUANA | A5

Tunnel repairs begin under University Drive

RACHEL ADAMSON

Chief Reporter | [@RachelAdamsonx1](#)

Facility Services has started emergency work to replace the tunnels under University Drive.

According to Assistant Vice President of Capital Programs and Facility Services Allen Mays, this project consists of two different stages.

As part of the first stage, during Thanksgiving break Northwest will be turning off its high-pressure steam heating system.

"We've got to shut everything down for those workers that are actually doing the construction work so the pipes will cool down and they can actually work on them," Mays said. "...We're doing

this pipe valve placement over the Thanksgiving break because most people will be gone."

When students return from Thanksgiving break, stage two will begin. Stage two will be a full replacement of the tunnel under University Drive. This will involve removal of the asphalt on Circle Drive, including removing the fountain that is in the middle of Circle Drive.

"There's a lot of history that surrounds that fountain," Mays said. "The fountain was originally a part of the city of Maryville and it was on the Maryville square. It was gifted to the University some time ago... We know that we are going to be removing the fountain here shortly and crating it up

and putting it in storage. I'm sure there will be discussions and plans about what we're going to do with the fountain, but I'm not sure what that is yet."

Part of the funding for this emergency work comes from student senate as a part of the campus master to support infrastructure upgrades.

"A portion of this funding is coming from the campus master plan funds," Mays said. "There's a fee that you pay as a student here that is for facilities and campus master plans. A fee that you paid this semester is helping support a portion of that tunnel replacement."

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NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

University Drive

MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN
Northwest began preparation for tunnel repairs Nov. 13 on University Drive between Seventh and Ninth Streets.

New Missouri laws to make it harder to get abortions

KATIE STEVENSON

News Editor | [@Ktiesstevenson](#)

Missouri House members passed legislation to tighten state abortion regulations with the aim to better ensure the health and safety of women.

The law was passed at the end of October and some of the main provisions include: allowing the attorney general to prosecute violations of state abortion laws with no obligation to inform local prosecutors, require physicians who perform an abortion to inform the woman orally and in person of the medical risks both immediate and long-term 72 hours prior to the procedure, prevent abortion clinic staff from requesting emergency responders to alter their normal response procedure by turning off lights or sirens, and require an abortion facility to provide affirmative evidence that each person authorized to perform abortions is a physician licensed to practice in Missouri.

The stronger safety regulations are meant to address a court ruling that struck down Missouri's previous law requiring abortion providers to abide by the same regulations imposed on ambulatory surgical centers. The court also did away with a

law requiring a doctor providing an abortion to have privileges at a nearby hospital.

According to johnstonsarchive.net, 6.2 percent of pregnancies in Nodaway county were aborted in 2012 to 2015. This is only a slight increase from 5.7 percent from 2011 to 2015. According to guttmacher.org, as of 2014, 60 percent of women having abortions were in their 20s.

Executive Director of the Source Medical Clinic, Gwen Knowles, stated the clinic offers a variety of services for people including pregnancy counseling.

"People that are age 18 to 24, they are the population with the highest rate of pregnancy and STI's and STD's so we think it is really important to be in our community and offer that to people and offer it free of charge so everybody has access to it," Knowles said.

"We do have options and counseling. We will counsel on all three options of pregnancy that a person has which are; carry to term and be a parent, carry to term and place for adoption or abortion so we will give information about all of those things."

SEE ABORTION | A5



ALEXIS GEISERT | PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Missouri House members passed legislation to tighten state abortion regulations. 6.2 percent of pregnancies in Nodaway county were aborted in 2012 to 2015. This is only a slight increase from 5.7 percent from 2011 to 2015.

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1914.

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University places wreaths to honor veterans

RACHEL ADAMSON
Chief Reporter | @racheladamsonxi

Northwest observed Veterans Day by placing wreaths at each military marker to honor the men and women who have served the country.

This is the fourth consecutive year Northwest has performed this ceremony. The ceremony is typically held on Veterans Day, but this year was performed the day before due to Veterans Day falling on Saturday.

University leaders, veterans and students on active duty gathered at 10:50 a.m. Nov. 10 at the Memorial Bell Tower to place a wreath, then moved indoors to the third floor of the Administration building to place the final wreath on the Roll of Honor.

According to University Event Coordinator Gina Bradley, in the past, they have gone to each military marker site and laid a wreath at different times. However, due to colder temperatures this year, the University decided to place the majority of the wreaths simultaneously.

"We'll leave (the wreaths) out through today just so (students and staff) can notice that we do rec-

ognize," Bradley said. "We are a military friendly school, so we acknowledge that we have students here that are veterans and are on active duty. We just want them to be recognized on this day."

There are six military markers on campus: World War I Memorial Plaza, Bell of 1948, Roll of Honor, Memorial Bell Tower, Persian Gulf War Memorial and Navy V-5/V-12 Combat Information Center.

The wreath laying ceremony stemmed from President John Jasinski as one of his ideas.

"Northwest over our 112-year history, those who have come before us have put together memorials and they're spread throughout the campus," Jasinski said. "We wanted to make sure that we uplift each one of them. We've put together on our website a look at all the memorials. Also on Veterans Day, or in this case the day before, honoring those by laying a wreath at each one of the memorial sites. We thought it would be an appropriate way for this University to honor those who serve us."

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RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest observed Veterans Day Nov. 10 by placing wreaths at each military marker to honor the men and women who have served the country.

Rec Center to get new assistant vice president

BROOKE BEASLEY

Chief Reporter | @bumblebee40

Northwest narrows down the search for a new Assistant Vice President (AVP) of the Campus Recreational Center.

The AVP will work to elevate Campus Recreation to enhance recruitment, retention and graduation of students.

Student Senate gets to assist in the process. The senate passed a fee to help fund operations of the new Hughes Center and the center wanted the senate's opinion during the hiring process.

Student Vice Vice President Alyssa Lincoln is one of the senators helping with the process.

"The Assistant Vice President of Campus Recreation is an ad-

ministrative position that will create and elevate our campus recreation here at Northwest," Lincoln said. "They will be involved in the retention and recruitment of students, as well as oversee all operation of the new Hughes Center, intramural programs, and the student rec. But their first and main priority will be staffing and opening the upcoming Hughes Field House."

The job includes many other parts as well. One part of the job will be to collaborate with other campuses and communities to help keep the Northwest campus recreation up to date and to get ideas of how to better the center and students.

According to the official Northwest Job Description: "The

AVP supervises the directors of the Student Recreation Center, the Foster Fitness Center, the Mozingo Outdoor Education and Recreation Area (MOERA), and a variety of outdoor multi-use fields."

The AVP also has many responsibilities.

"The Assistant Vice President is responsible for leadership, development and oversight of all recreation services and programs including, but not limited to: Intramural Sports, Fitness, Club Sports, Mozingo Outdoor Education Recreation Area (MOERA), Marketing, Promotions, Member Services, Personal Training, Business Operations, Student Development, Facility Planning, Development, and Maintenance, Equipment Maintenance and Technolo-

gy Services. Further, the AVP will collaborate with other campus and community groups to provide a diverse set of Recreation programs and services."

The job has a few different qualification areas. The applicants will need a Master's degree in Recreation Administration, Physical Education or a related field. The AVP will also need at least three years of program leadership in campus recreation programming with appropriate field experience. Experience in fiscal management of campus recreation programs, and knowledge of risk management planning is required. The candidates will also need to have an up to date First Aid and CPR certification.

The job was posted on

NeoGov, an HR software for public sector agencies. This website is often used for people in search of a higher education job.

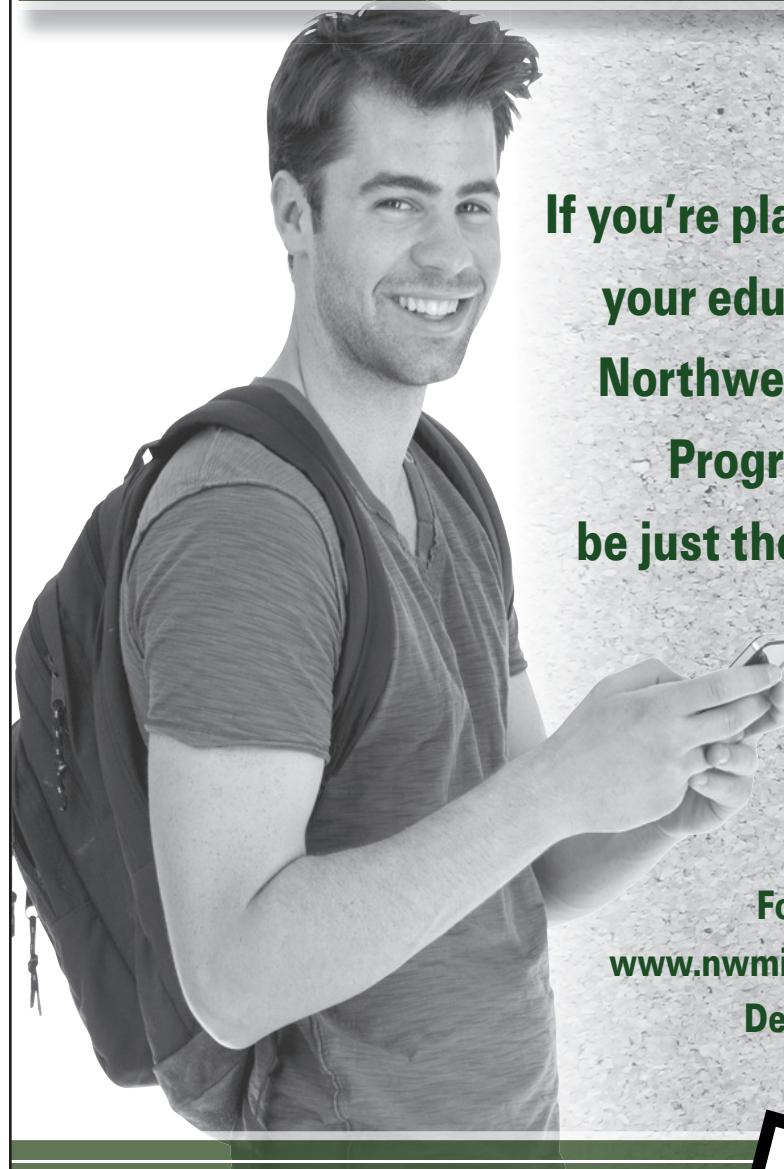
Lincoln believes that the candidates they narrowed the search down to are well qualified for the position.

"We have two amazing candidates, Greg Hansen and Caesar Wood, coming to campus Wednesday and Thursday," Lincoln said. "They will be engaging with city leaders, Northwest student leaders, administrators, and faculty and staff in Campus Recreation and Student Affairs."

Lincoln said a candidate will most likely be chosen as the new AVP on Friday, or sometime soon after the candidates visit campus.

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Prosecuting office hosts law enforcement classes

MATTHEW BERRY
Reporter @TheMatthewBerry

Nodaway County Prosecuting Attorney Robert Rice is holding law enforcement classes this month in hopes to help save money and provide direct communication.

The classes are being held once a week in the county administration building for free to any peace officer in Nodaway county. Rice chose to host these classes to help local law enforcement officers and their budgets.

"I decided that, in order to help out our local law enforcement agencies fill the requirements that each police officer must have every year, put on classes that go over common topics that we see and deal with here on a frequent basis in Nodaway county," Rice said.

The decision to offer these classes to the officers for free seemed obvious to Rice.

"We are in tight, lean, budget times," Rice said. "Each one of my law enforcement agencies must send all of their police officers to these trainings and that costs a lot

of money. I thought why not try to help them stretch their dollar by offering a training here locally that they would not have to pay for."

The expenses Rice refer to were explained by University Police Chief Clarence Green. Green pointed out that when these classes are not taught locally, the costs can become problematic.

"We typically have to send folks away to trainings that are done at the type of level," Green said. "It's going to cost us a hotel, it's going to cost us travel expenses, (however) the biggest cost is that time away and someone else has to cover their time cause we are (a) 24/365 operation."

Once approved by the state of Missouri, Rice is set to teach a course on the topics of intoxicated driving, controlled substances, writing effective probable cause statements and case law updates. This class would count for four of the 24 hours required of every officer yearly.

**SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**



TAYLOR JOHNSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Law enforcement officers learn about common legal issues during a training session held by Nodaway County Prosecutor Robert Rice Nov. 7. One more session will be offered Nov. 22 at the Nodaway County Administration Center conference room.

Students work to design new Mozingo computer system

SAMANTHA COLLISON
Missourian Reporter | @SammieCollison

Graduate students in information systems are designing information management systems for the new Mozingo conference center as part of their capstone course.

The Masters of Science in Information Systems was introduced last fall, and this group is the first to take the capstone course. The course is taken during the student's final semester and synthesizes information from all of their classes into one project.

Coordinator of the information systems graduate program Joni Adkins said this course offers students an experience they wouldn't normally have.

"Most of our graduate students go to school year-round, they don't generally do an internship, so this is a great way for them to get to work with someone outside of the school in more of a business setting," Adkins said.

City manager Greg McDanel previously worked with Northwest students to design the Mozingo logo. When the plans for the Mozingo conference center were

announced, and when the city was looking for a group to provide information management systems, he looked to Northwest again.

Assistant professor Cindy Tu, the instructor of the capstone course, along with Adkins met with McDanel to determine what the information system needs would be.

"Right now they (the Mozingo Conference Center) don't have any information systems to help the management, so we interviewed them, and our students actually visited the facility and then we got four system ideas:

employee management, beverage management, room management and supply management," Tu said.

The students were divided into four groups, each with a different system to design a prototype for. They meet with their client—the director of the conference center Ashley Barber—regularly to discuss progress and potential changes.

"Every two weeks she [Barber] comes for a review. We divide the work into five sprints. After every sprint is done, the client will come and they have the review meeting and the students will present their

progress during this sprint to the client, and the client will give them comments and feedback for the progress. After five sprints they will have finished the whole prototype," Tu said.

This project is different from an internship in that it's specifically designed to utilize all of the skills the students have learned in their classes: from the technical skills to leadership and communication skills.

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OPINION

Keep politics out of tragedies



JAMES CHRISTENSEN
Opinion Columnist
@jameschris1701

Once again our country has been struck by tragedy, an event that is happening all too often in our country.

I have noticed a startling trend on social media following every tragedy. For about 12 hours after the first report, sites like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are full of love and support for the victims and their families. But the moment those 12 hours are over

it is like the harpies swoop in and turn these events into a platform to bring about political change.

While I do believe change needs to be made in our country, a majority of these posts are nothing more than attacking the other party for their beliefs. Democrats blame Republicans for lax gun control policies, and the Republicans blame the Democrats for what gun control policies are already in place.

Since this semester began, there have been at least four major terror attacks on United States soil. While each one of these events garnered a lot of public support for the victims and survi-

vors, they quickly turned into political debates on whether or not a certain gun should be allowed or restrictions on a basic American rights and the protections provided by the Second Amendment.

These fights are not going to get us anywhere. A discussion is fine and dandy, but unless we are willing to go out and consciously make a change, these acts of violence are going to continue to happen.

In the United States we have the highest death rates in regards to gun violence compared to other countries at our level of development in the world. Japan only had 12 deaths caused by guns last year.

In the United States, this same statistic was over 12 thousand, according to an article posted by the Atlantic.

Regardless of how you identify politically, this is an issue we need to discuss, but there is a proper time and place to have these discussions. Social media is not the place to start these discussions. Get involved in local governments, call your representatives, if you are passionate on seeing something changed, run for office.

The change begins with us, and if you do not do anything aside from tweet about it, nothing is going to get done. There is a quote from Louis L'Amour that

keeps playing heavily in my mind.

"To make democracy work, we must be a nation of participants, not simply observers," L'Amour said.

Get involved, it is only when we the people get involved in the political process that any change will be accomplished.

The only change that will succeed is the one that we make an effort to push for. If we do not put in the effort, we will get nowhere. I would love to see a day where I am not afraid that I might be shot just going through my daily business.

So quit typing tweets, pick up the phone and make a change in our world.

OUR VIEW:

Legalized marijuana could benefit Missouri

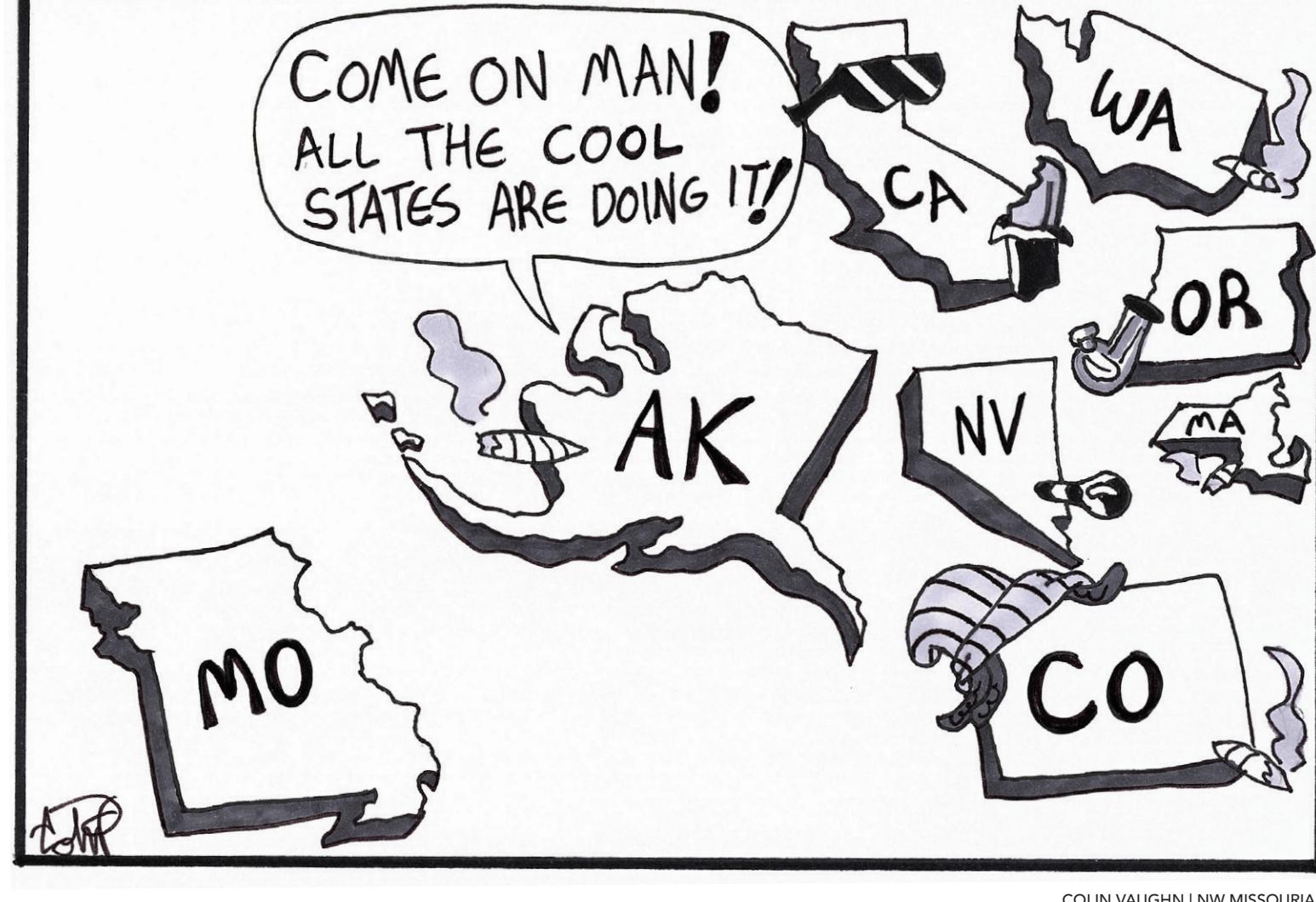
It may be time for Missouri to finally hop on the quickly populating bandwagon of legalizing medicinal and recreational marijuana.

While Missouri stands as a conservative state, the benefits of medical marijuana may be too significant to pass up. Legalization has already begun in some form for 29 of the 50 states. For example, Alaska legalized medical marijuana in 1998 and have continued to reap the health and monetary benefits of the decision, according to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. The health department's website even provides risk and safety facts for the use of marijuana.

This can seem reckless and dangerous to some, but states that have legalized medical use have a series of strict requirements and guidelines to prevent a landslide of problems. States like Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland and Delaware require mandatory registration, only after being diagnosed with approved medical conditions. Patients receive registration ID cards, and in most cases, these cards can not be used in other states, regardless of the state's laws on the drug.

Medicinal marijuana has been known to reduce the effects of cancer, glaucoma, HIV/AIDS and epileptic seizures, according to Leafly.com. Conditions such as these can be extremely hard to live with, so why not give people the relief they need? Wouldn't it be the humane thing to do?

While most marijuana uses are recreational, the spreading legalization of the drug has actually decreased the amount of overdoses from opioid drugs such as heroin, cocaine and prescription pills. The monetary benefits of marijuana are



COLIN VAUGHN | NW MISSOURIAN

even greater. According to CNN, the state of Colorado has increased their state revenue by \$500 million since its legalization in 2014.

Local Maryville law enforcement may not agree with the addition of marijuana legalization to the 2018 ballot, for fear of an increase in drug related issues, but

it will only help settle these problems. Yes, there may be an increase of negative marijuana related phone calls to local sheriff's department, but that comes with any legally acceptable, yet possibly dangerous action from consenting adults. There will be individuals who abuse the substance, just

as people abuse the use of alcohol, but the benefits will outnumber the drawbacks. We should take heed of our neighboring states and follow their examples.

Finding a healthy and safe balance between medical and recreational use of marijuana will save college students, parents--average

everyday people from a life behind bars. Even rescue individuals have been incarcerated for nonviolent marijuana related charges. We have an opportunity to create an environment where individuals can be relieved of their pain, reunited with their family, and stay safe--why not take it?

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Staff of the Northwest Missourian,

I know you have received complaint letters in the past. There was the one week with the Stroller article, "Your Bearcat Wants You to Understand Plural versus Singular," that upset some students on campus. But that was an opinion piece by one individual. Some people agreed with it, some people disagreed with it, but nevertheless, it was an opinion article written by one person that didn't reflect the opinion of the Missourian as a whole.

Today, I read an article that said it was "Our View," implying it was an article that reflected the opinions of the Missourian as a whole. Since it is an article that reflects the view of your staff as a whole, I feel compelled to write you about it. And let

me tell you, I can't remember the last time I was so angry reading an article. Let me explain why.

The article was called "Politics do not belong in our cars." The article title seemed innocent enough, but I soon learned the content within was sinister. Particularly, this part of the article:

"Driving can be like modern day Darwinism. If people text while driving, it's on them. They made the choice to put their lives, as well as others, in danger and should accept the consequences."

Excuse me, but did you all just imply that making poor decisions that put OTHER LIVES in danger is okay because that's the person's choice? I have never heard anything farther from the truth. Also, do you even know what Darwinism MEANS? Natural selection is about passing on traits genetical-

ly that help your species survive its environment, it does NOT equate to recklessly putting other lives at risk because you feel like it, so don't try to twist Darwin's life work for your own gains. Besides the idiocy of this claim in of itself, it hits me on a personal level.

A few years ago, it was nearing my parents' wedding anniversary which was of course meant to be a day of joy and celebration. They had made plans to spend the day of jubilation together, just the two of them, which wasn't an opportunity they got very often raising four kids.

Well, instead of spending the day together in joyful celebration, they spent it at a funeral. A friend of theirs was struck and killed by someone who was texting and driving. Their friend was a mother, and that mother was homeschooled

her children. She was KILLED by someone texting and driving. And you're telling me people have the right to be so reckless "because it's their choice"? You say the government has no right to step in to protect its citizens?

It is 100% the right of the government to step in to help protect the lives of its citizens. And trust me, I am not someone who is big into government control. But I know there are things that are important for the government to regulate for the safety of its citizens. The law requires us to wear seat belts, and that's for our own safety. Texting and driving is an extremely dangerous habit that not only hurts ourselves, but hurts others. It robs children of their mothers, wives from their husbands, friends from friends.

You claim the law would be

too hard to enforce? I beg to differ. You argue you want to still be able to use GPS on your phone? Fine, other states with texting and driving laws allow this. But you argue that the government shouldn't get involved to stop texting and driving? Tell that to the children who are missing their mother due to such a line of thought.

This article was ignorant and upsetting. You should think more carefully about how you phrase things in the future or you will begin losing readers.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

A concerned reader,

Melinda

STAFF

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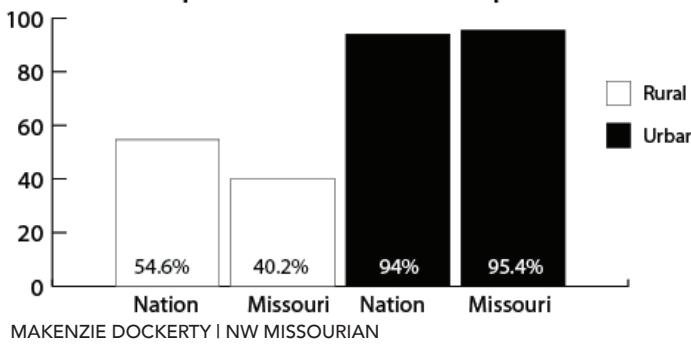
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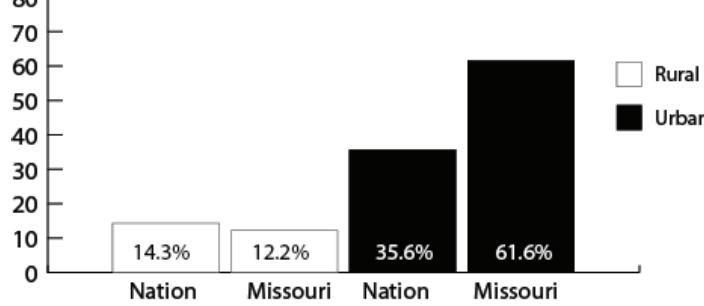
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Winter Guard returns to Northwest

BROOKE BEASLEY

Chief Reporter | @bumblebee40

Northwest Winter Guard begins recruitment to prepare for their end of year competition.

The Winter Guard begins its second season on Northwest Campus. Winter Guard is an organization that is similar to Color Guard, but doesn't have any campus performances and isn't affiliated with the Bearcat Marching Band (BMB).

Sophomore Brian Chaney, the organization's vice president and stand in treasurer, notes there's a main reason the organization isn't a part of the BMB.

"Dr. Strickland already has a lot on her plate, so she doesn't have enough time to add another thing to sponsor to her already large set of duties," Chaney said. "Our sponsor is Kylie Mattke, she works in the registrar's office and is the coach of the Maryville high school guards as well."

Transcript Specialist Kylie

Mattke is excited to sponsor Winter Guard.

"They came to me one day and asked me to be a sponsor, and my eyes lit up because I went to school here and I've been rooting for it (Winter Guard) since I was in school here," Mattke said.

Mattke noted this is the Winter Guard's second year at Northwest. Many schools surrounding Northwest also have Winter Guard. MoWest competed for the first time last season. UCM, Truman and other schools have more than one Winter Guard team at the school.

Winter Guard uses flags like the Color Guard, but it also uses "weaponry", or rifles and sabers (dancing swords). They choreograph a routine to a musical soundtrack and perform indoors. A typical season lasts from November to early April.

Chaney is excited for the season to start.

"The main difference (from Color Guard) is it is indoors,

which makes it so much more fun," Chaney said. "You can do really cool and tall tosses because you don't have to worry about the wind blowing your flag 56 yards away. You also get to incorporate more dance and bodywork, which just looks great underneath your flag or rifle."

One of the jobs Chaney has as vice president is to choreograph and recruit for tryouts. He wants students to know that recruitment is open for a little while longer, and is hoping more people join the guard. He wants other people to experience it the way he got the chance to.

"I am a part of the Winter Guard because guard is what I love," Chaney said. "Before I joined Color Guard in highschool, I was in a really rough place, but getting to go out and perform brought a joy to my life."

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NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

"They use the taxes on alcohol and cigarettes to help fund education and they could do that with weed and that would be a good thing," Wilkerson said. "You could do taxes on weed to fund different types of research as well."

Not only does Strong believe the drug would negatively affect the economy he also stated he would need proof to understand its uses medically.

"I have not really seen anything that tells me that medical marijuana is all that that I see on social media and the news," Strong said. "If we were seeing that we would be seeing miraculous cures all over the place and I am just not seeing that. I think it is all just smoke and mirrors because I haven't seen the proof yet."

According to the NIDA, the term medical marijuana refers to using the whole, unprocessed marijuana plant or its basic extracts to treat a disease or symptom. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), however, has

not recognized or approved the plant as medicine. But, people are still using the plant to help treat a number of illnesses and diseases, though its true effectiveness is not yet known. This element of unknowing has created a divide.

According to the New England Journal of Medicine, eight-in-10 doctors approve the use of medical marijuana. And according to a study from the California Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance system, 92 percent said that medical marijuana alleviated symptoms of their serious medical conditions, including chronic pain, arthritis, migraine and cancer.

However, Ruby believes the drug should be readily available to those who need it like any other prescription is.

"People who marijuana has been medically beneficial to should be able to have it readily available," Ruby said. "It would still need to be regulated if it is made legal just like any other drug is."

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HOROSCOPES



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, even if you are sure that your perspective will win over the crowd, you have to accept there will be some who don't agree with you. Be gracious and don't step on any toes.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, although you might not realize it, someone is making a concerted effort to get to know you this week. Be open to new relationships and you may make a lifelong friend.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you have worked hard and are now beginning to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Treat yourself to whatever you would like. Be proud of your efforts.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Conversations with others should be kept light and easy this week to avoid any drama, Sagittarius. Delving deeper into others' lives is the furthest thing from your mind.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, are your achievements isolating you from others? You may have to let someone else get some of the glory this week, if only to show your vulnerable and accommodating side.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Do not avoid others to escape conflict, Aquarius; otherwise, you are only delaying the inevitable. Speak your mind and address the situation with tact and professionalism.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, your self-esteem can soar this week if you surround yourself with the right people. Fill your days with fun and many activities.

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 19

Aries, you may be tempted to tie up loose ends this week, but there is a lot to finish so expect things to take longer than you hoped. Focus only on one project at a time.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 19

Taurus, your words and actions may not be matching up right now. This may be confusing to others. It may be better to just lead by example.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, things have been moving along quite easily for you and you are enjoying the respite. Take all the deep breaths you can during this period of recovery.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Time has been passing quite rapidly, Cancer. You may be feeling like you aren't quite catching up to the clock. As long as some work is getting finished, you are completely fine.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

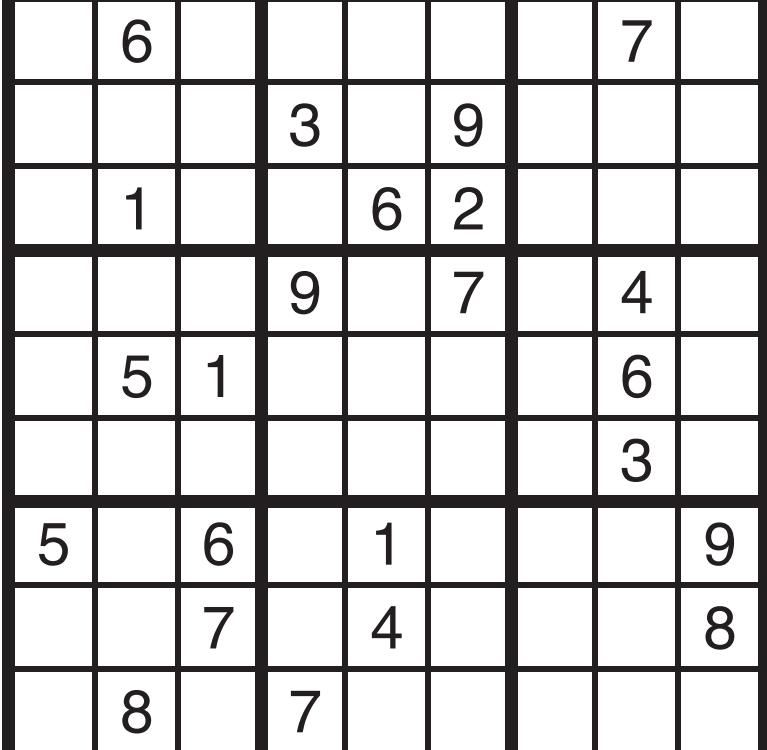
Leo, you are anxious to go on an adventure, but you simply can't find time in your schedule. You may just have to make it happen by turning off your devices and heading out.

#ICYMI

Stranger Things is all the rage among groups all over the country, and one police department is using it as a way to control crime. The East Lansing Police Department in Michigan shared a tweet using Stranger Things as a deterrent for crime. They have covered all of their jail cells in Stranger Things season two spoilers, and have used it as a way to keep people out of jail. While it was later revealed that this was nothing more than a joke, it has gone viral on Twitter with people commenting on it from all over the world.

The University of Cambridge has discovered sheep can remember celebrities just like us. In a study conducted by a group of scientists have successfully trained sheep to recognize celebrities like Emma Watson and Jake Gyllenhaal. One statistic released in the study showed that the sheep chose the celebrity eight out of 10 times. This study is being used as a model for studying certain mental diseases such as Huntington's disease.

SUDOKU



DIVERSIONS

Paranormal Inactivity



COLIN VAUGHAN | NW MISSOURIAN

PET OF THE WEEK



SUBMIT YOUR PET TO S521010@nwmissouri.edu

PORKCHOP

Age: 2.5 months

Weight: Itty-Bitty

Fluff-Factor: 6/10

Favorite Quote

"If you've got beef, then eat a porkchop." - Coolio



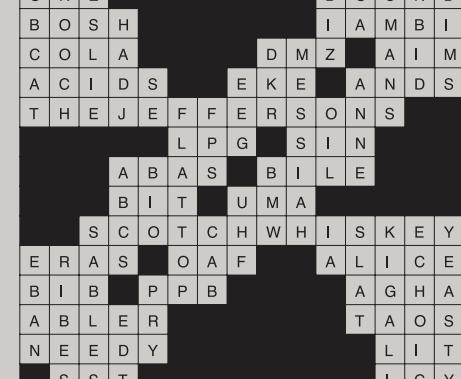
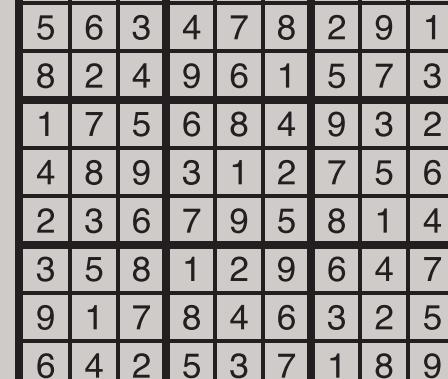
CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Holds candles
- 2. In possession of
- 10. Rodents
- 12. Type of cofactor (Brit. sp.)
- 13. Hard candy on a stick
- 14. Animal of the weasel family
- 15. Things that should not be overlooked
- 16. "Silence" author
- 17. Dried, split lentils
- 18. People native to Ghana
- 19. Barros and Gasteyer are two
- 21. British thermal unit
- 22. Large oblong hall
- 27. Ethnic group in Asia
- 28. Holiday decoration
- 33. Milliliter
- 34. Open
- 36. Health physics concept (abbr.)
- 37. Tantric meditation
- 38. Where golf games begin
- 39. Birth swine
- 40. Rip
- 41. Remove
- 44. Puts together in time
- 45. Rotary engines
- 48. Skeletal structure
- 49. Member of a labor organization
- 50. Japanese classical theater
- 51. Undergarments
- 4. ___ and tuck
- 5. Head honcho
- 6. Second sight
- 7. Composer
- 8. About aviation
- 9. Senior officer
- 10. Forecasts weather
- 11. Seasoned Hungarian soup
- 12. Town in Hesse, Germany
- 14. Thought to derive from meteorites
- 17. Hit lightly
- 18. Seemingly bottomless chasm
- 20. Title of respect
- 23. Warms up
- 24. Man and Wight are two
- 25. Type of scan
- 26. Atomic mass unit
- 29. Article
- 30. Incriminate
- 31. Passes by
- 32. Most nerve-inducing
- 35. David Alan Grier sitcom
- 36. Achieve
- 38. Freshwater fish
- 40. Beginner
- 41. Dark brown or black
- 42. A newlywed wears one
- 43. DiFranco and Vardanyan are two
- 44. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 45. Ancient Egyptian King
- 46. Old name (abbr.)
- 47. Brazilian city (slang)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



Xavier Kurth

Senior brings deep roots with him on, off the court



SUBMITTED

Xavier plays guard for the Northwest basketball team. He has played basketball for the past four years at Northwest and enjoys shooting hoops with his friends in his free time.

MICHAEL CRIPE
A&E Editor | @MikeCripe

Honesty and determination are not qualities that found senior Xavier Kurth, they are qualities he adopted.

The adoption of these traits does not stop at Kurth's Nike basketball shoes, as he manages to carry and spread them both on and off the basketball court.

Kurth, a physical education major and a guard on Northwest's basketball team, says he learned his love for sincerity from two of his most devoted teachers: his grandmother, who he knows as mamaw, and his mother.

"My mom raised me as a single parent and everything I am is because of her," Kurth said. "She taught me to always be a good person no matter who is watching, because what you do in the dark comes to light. Treat people the way you want to be treated."

Though his mother taught him the ways of sincerity, mamaw was the one who cemented in his ideals

through St. Joe, you may not even know there is a college there, but when you pass through here, it's obvious."

Kurth has gained a lot of knowledge while in school, both about basketball and himself. He says he always knew he wanted to coach high school basketball even before college, but figuring out how to achieve his dream was a lot more complicated than he had originally thought.

"I kept telling my mom, 'I can do this,'" Kurth said. "Going through school taught me how important teaching was if I wanted to be a coach. The dream started in high school, but really got emphasized in college."

Kurth traveled through college with blinding speed, but not without stopping to think about where he was going every now and then. One of his favorite quotes comes from his high school coach, Chris Neff.

"It's not what happens to you, it's how you react to it," Neff said, according to Kurth. "I live every-



SUBMITTED

Xavier is a physical education major and enjoys learning other sports outside of basketball that he will use when he becomes a teacher. Outside of the sports realm, Xavier also enjoys writing music to eliminate stress.

of honesty.

"She's real low key the way she goes about things, but if I ask her something, she is always honest," Kurth said. "I've never had a moment where she's not upfront and honest with me, even if sometimes it drives me nuts how truthful she is."

Taking every word of advice, Kurth prepared for college, ready to leave his home in St. Joseph. He knew going in he wanted to play basketball, but being recruited was not his top priority. What mattered most to Kurth was finding a home and environment capable of meeting the high bar of authenticity he had grown up with.

Kurth says he was recruited first by Missouri Western, but the town and school didn't mix well enough for him. Fittingly, Kurth found what finally drew him to Northwest was how genuine everyone was.

"Nothing seemed fake, like everyone in town was about Northwest and like everything you do stems off Northwest," Kurth said. "Everyone knows that when you think about Maryville, you think about Northwest. When you pass

day by that. If I have a bad day and if I am in a bad mood, I can't let that affect everybody else. I don't want to put out bad vibes. I want to be that person you can go to that helps make your day better."

Over the last four years of Kurth's basketball career he's managed to sustain too many injuries for him to count. He says these injuries are more aggravating than anything, but his coach's quote always rings like a buzzer in his mind when injuries or losses get him down.

"You work all summer and you work so hard on your game, so when it comes time to play you feel so confident," Kurth said. "Then when you get those injuries you're forced to backtrack almost because you have to just sit there and watch. But it's like starting at the 20 yard line while everyone else is at the 50; you just have to catch up and build back up that confidence."

Through all of his yearly injuries and figuring out his life's game plan, the 2016-2017 basketball season finally rolled around. Something was different this year than previous years though.

Win after win, the Kurth and the rest of the players scored their way to the top as a team. Then after all of their hard work, came a national championship victory. All of the moments Kurth had figured out and worked past paid off in what he says to be one of the biggest highlights of his life.

"With the season we had last year, to finally come together and get that end goal and get past that sweet 16 hump, I don't think I've ever had a feeling like that day," Kurth said. "It was so happy and energetic, it makes the hard work during the summer and offseason worth it."

Some of the most discourag-

ing moments in Kurth's life led to this moment as well, as he reflects on some of the near wins he had to watch slip through the cracks at the last second. So after going through high school and college play, the win tasted that much sweeter.

Student athletes no doubt deal with a bit of a balancing act when it comes to school and sport. Kurth always chooses to put school first, as his road to becoming a coach is now closer than ever. Even so, making time to cool down and relax has always been something Kurth knows is necessary.

What he chooses to do with as his stress reliever though, is a bit different than what it is for most

people.

"Between school and basketball I obviously tend to get pretty stressed, but that's where writing music comes in," Kurth said. "None of them are published, like, I'm not J. Cole or Drake or anything, but I do it on the side just to have something to do."

Kurth has taken the majority of his life to learn who he is and it has led to sincerity, a passion for coaching and an earned national championship victory. Now, with teaching and coaching in his sights, there is little doubt Kurth will manage to pass along the same ideals he adopted so long ago.

'Rumors' captures crazy comedy



SUBMITTED

Theater Northwest performed "Rumors" Nov. 9 thru Nov. 13 directed by graduate student Wendy King in the Studio Theater.

ABBEY HUGO

Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

With mystery, intrigue and outlandish comedy, Theatre Northwest's "Rumors" had more than enough crazy antics to keep the audience members on the edge of their seats.

The play was directed by graduate student Wendy King and ran Nov. 9 through Nov. 13, with three of the four nights selling out the entire studio theater.

Each night, the audience was thrown into the action as soon as the stage lights turned on.

The play began as lawyer Ken Gorman, played by Sophomore Josh Munden, was frantically trying to hide the fact that the Deputy Mayor Charley Brock had shot himself. To make matters worse, guests were arriving for a party to celebrate Brock's wedding anniversary, each with a unique problem of their own.

Freshman Trinity Zynda, who played Cookie Cusack, described the play as live action Clue.

"The best way to sum up the show is: one thing goes wrong, and then it snowballs into everything going wrong," King said.

As each new character entered the scene, the plot became increasingly intricate, escalating until each character discovered the secret. And if things weren't already complicated enough, the group eventually had to explain their impossible evening to the police officers who showed up out of the blue.

"The play was definitely serious and increased in intensity, but the humor aspect was there and was a huge component," freshman audience member April Walkup said.

"Rumors" is considered a farical comedy, meaning the scenario was knowingly ridiculous and the humor was purposefully over the top.

With this particular style of comedy, many consider the jokes cheesy. Others would argue they are simply clever. Either way, there was a joke to appeal to everyone.

All audience members would eventually fall victim to the hilarity, busting a gut in their seat.

"It's interesting to see the college students and then the parents because they're laughing at different types of jokes. But at least someone is laughing at all the

jokes," King said. "Sometimes everyone gets them, sometimes the just the older people get them and sometimes just the younger people."

Most of the jokes were scripted, but through the creative process, the students were able to add in a few jokes of their own.

According to Zynda, rehearsing a comedy is a time sensitive affair.

The students worked on "Rumors" for just over month, any longer, Zynda said, and they risk the actors getting tired of the jokes.

Avoiding that possibility, and assuring the actors enjoyed themselves, was made a huge priority.

"The biggest thing for me is making sure the actors have a good time. It's called a play for a reason," King said.

King had just as much fun as the cast. Rumor has it, she performed this play herself 11 years ago. Ever since, she had dreamt of directing it.

The wait was well worth it. The audience was laughing, the actors were clearly enjoying every minute on stage and after, King was glowing with pride.

Paint & Sip inspires with art, sparkling cider

MEKA WRIGHT

Chief Reporter | @_yafavredhead_

Soulful R&B music swarmed the room as women lost themselves; some in song, others in the rhythmic strokes of their paint brushes, or a serene combination of the two. Singing, swaying and sipping through their guided instructions, waiting to see what masterpieces they had captured.

Serenity, peace and unity are what the First Lady Organization captured at their Paint & Sip event Friday, Nov. 10 in the Student Union Boardroom.

The room crowded with groups and pairs of giggling women excited to begin a night of peace painting, elegant appetizers and sparkling cider to sip. Women took their seats at the tables, lined with white table cloths; a palette of colors and an assortment of paint brushes waited before every chair.

Executive board members, seniors Mariah Barnes and Janae Wells, said the organization wanted to have a night of unity with the

women on campus.

"I went to a paint and sip back home and it was fun," Wells said. "I felt like it was a good way to do something that people don't get to do up here."

Barnes initially agreed to the suggestion during an executive board meeting.

"It was a good way for us (women on campus) to come together and communicate," Barnes said. "Just have a little fun and come together as one."

This is exactly what transpired that night, as women from all parts of campus came to enjoy a night of simple fun, while experiencing the company of other women who they may not have known or even seen around campus.

"One of our goals was to have a lot more diversity and I feel like it was pretty diverse," Barnes said.

**SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

Cupcake Wars sprinkles in creativity at Northwest

CORIE HERTZONG

Chief Reporter | @CoffeeGilmore97

Several long tables stood at the front of the Union Ballroom, holding chocolate and vanilla cupcakes, vanilla icing, food coloring and a multitude of other ingredients for students to use. Soon students were in a flurry of icing, crumbs and sprinkles.

They could taste the sweetness

of competition during Student Activities Council's second annual Cupcake Wars at 9 p.m. Nov. 9.

With only an hour to design and decorate a cupcake, teams of three raced against the clock. There were three categories to enter: Northwest, holiday or miscellaneous. After the hour ended, all cupcakes were judged based on creativity, connection to the theme, appearance, detail and

overall wow factor.

Teams could enter a cupcake in any or all three categories, with one team making a cupcake for each category.

"I came because there were cupcakes, and I'm all about cupcakes," freshman Natalie Coté said. "I love decorating stuff and dragged my friends here."

Coté teamed up with her two best friends, freshman Bryana

Jones and sophomore transfer student Baylynd Porter to create their three cupcakes. They each decorated one cupcake. Coté made a holiday themed cupcake by turning her sugary treat into a turkey.

Jones tackled the task of turning her cupcake into a football to represent Northwest.

"I mean, it's Northwest," Jones said, explaining why she chose her design.

Porter took on the miscellaneous challenge with a "Stranger Things" inspired dessert.

"Everyone's going to do a holiday thing," Porter said. "I see a lot of Christmas trees, and stuff. I want to do something that's lit and mainstream."

**SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat wants you to problem solve

We all have complaints, we can't do anything about them, and they'll always be here. Funnily enough, we actually seem to be quite attached to them.

When we think about complaints and the act of complaining, it doesn't have a positive connotation, but it tends to solve the problem at hand. While this may be true, we shouldn't rely solely on them to fix all of our issues especially when there are ways to get out of a situation.

Even though this seems like an obvious statement, there are many times I have seen people constantly complain about problems they could easily fix.

I'm talking about situations people can get out of, but chose not to. The ones they know they can do something about, but will instead decide to wcomplain.

Sometimes when you talk to them all they seem to want to do is complain about how awful their life is. At times, it may even seem like you're battling them to see who has more problems.

This only garners more negativity in your life and might even add stress.

Don't get me wrong, I understand when it comes to complaining about work, school and stress. These complaints typically have a time limit though. Usually by the end of a test, you'll no longer complain about having to take it. Even when you complain about a teacher, you won't always have them.

There are limits to how much is enough. We should all strive to solve our own problems first with only a small amount of complaints for the stressful moments in life.

By cutting down how often we complain about the same situation, we might actually find the solution to our problem ourselves. Through this, we can all grow as friends, intellectuals and humans.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

Reigning champs to return home

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor | @iswanny10



After a team captures its program's first national title, the following season may start slow.

"I think the misconception is that we're just going to pick up right where left off...we do have a lot of new guys trying to fit into different roles," Northwest basketball coach Ben McCollum said. "We're still trying to figure stuff out, especially defensively."

Though McCollum has said his team isn't up to its championship caliber yet, what team would two games into the season?

The No. 1 Bearcats (2-0) may not feel as though they've reached their best basketball, but the stats say otherwise.

In Northwest's first 89-65 win over Upper Iowa (3-2), the team finished with a 55 percent field-goal percentage. That's four percent higher than last year's championship season average.

The Bearcat's 3-point percentage was even better wrapping up its first game with a red-hot 56 percent. Though early, that's best for No. 12 in the country.

One of the other early spikes in Northwest's stats is the play of senior forward Brett Dougherty.

"I think he's very dependable, so you can always count on him; that continues to be his role," McCollum said. "He's a little bit more of a scoring threat now," McCollum said. "Teams have schemed us and are starting to take away our shooters more and more which opens up things for him inside."

Dougherty has averaged 6.4 points per game through his career. The Omaha, Nebraska native isn't doing anything new. He's simply gaging each and every situation and making the best possible decision.

"I think I got some opportunities in both those games," Dougherty said. "I just tried to take advantage of my matchups." Not only did Dougherty find his rhythm, but so did Northwest's career leader in points (1,981), senior Justin Pitts. The 150-pound guard began his season dropping 30 points in game one and 22 points along with six assists in game two.

McCollum said Dougherty has played a massive role in freeing up the reigning Division II Player of the Year time and time again. Even going as far to say it is sometimes not even noticed.

NEXT GAMES

Metropolitan State @ Northwest
Nov. 17 @ 7 p.m.
Truman State @ Northwest
Nov. 18 @ 3 p.m.



DYLAN COLDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior forward Brett Dougherty goes up against Peacocks Senior forward Mitch Eighme in a Bearcat win over Upper Iowa at Missouri Western Nov. 11.

Young roster begins to shape future of program

JOSEPH ANDREWS
Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15



Northwest women's basketball unveiled its inexperienced roster in the team's first two games.

The Bearcats dropped two straight to Ouachita Baptist (1-1) and Henderson State (1-1) in Bolivar Nov. 10 and 11.

It marks the fourth time Northwest has started its season 0-2 in the past five years.

"At times, we put together really good possessions on both ends of the ball," coach Buck Scheel said. "For us right now, it's really about getting more consistent and much more competitive."

Both games served as the first collegiate matches for Northwest's five freshmen.

Jaelyn Haggard, Kylie Coleman, Mallory McConkey, Zoie Hayward and Mia Stillman played for a combined 217 minutes in the

Bearcats' opening weekend.

Upperclassmen Mallory McAndrews, Tanya Meyer, Arbie Benson, Maria Dentlinger, Kaylani Maiava and Mele Tupouata were on court for a combined 183 minutes.

The difference in experience showed in the results.

"For our freshmen, it was kind of that college game wake up call," Scheel said. "Our competitiveness in practice has been good, but it's not at that level you need it to be. Nothing teaches you more than game time."

The Bearcats gave up an average 71.5 points in its first two matchups. Northwest's offense averaged 58.5 points.

Combined with a 34.6 percent field goal percentage, the Bearcats have yet to find consistency through an entire game.

"The biggest thing is going to be putting together four consistent possessions and always moving on to that next play," Scheel said.

"They're going to make mistakes and they need to understand that. I need to sometimes do a better job understanding that too."

Scheel started Meyer alongside four freshmen in Northwest's 68-54 loss to Ouachita Baptist Nov. 10.

"You could tell some of them had the deer in the headlights look," Scheel said. "Then there were some of them that were just out there playing."

Northwest stayed close until Ouachita Baptist scored a game high 25 points in the fourth quarter, handing the Bearcats their first loss of the season.

One day later, the Bearcats attempted to turn things around, but fell to Henderson State 75-63. McAndrews was mixed into the lineup alongside Meyer leaving three underclassmen on the court.

The same fourth quarter struggles continued as Henderson State built up a 19-point lead. Despite losing juice in the final minutes of

NEXT GAME

Maryville University @ Northwest
Nov. 20 @ 6 p.m.

the game, Scheel mentioned both games showed bright sides.

"The times when everyone is on the same page, things look pretty good," Scheel said. "There were a lot of different situations like that over the weekend that was good to see."

The Bearcats host Maryville University (1-1) Nov. 20. It marks the first time both teams have met in competition.

"They are one of the more competitive teams in the GLVC (Great Lakes Valley Conference) every year," Scheel said. "We got to get through."

Results from Nov. 15's matchup with Peru State were not available upon publication. Find a recap at nwmissourinews.com.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

BEARCATS

Jonathan Baker



The senior quarterback threw for 207 yards and one touchdown leading Northwest to a 30-0 victory over Missouri Western Nov. 11. It was the first start of his career.

Maddy Bruder



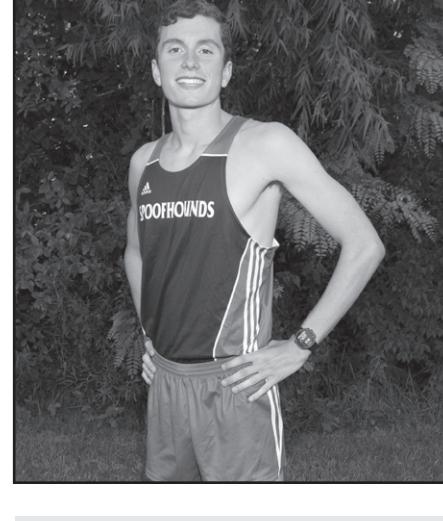
The junior outside hitter was named to the All-MIAA volleyball first team. She recorded 16 kills and 12 digs in Northwest's 3-1 playoff loss to Central Missouri Nov. 14.

Tyler McGary



The sophomore linebacker recorded a game high six tackles (five solo, two assists) in Maryville's 19-13 victory over Center Nov. 11. He averages 4.2 tackles a game.

Caleb Feuerbacher



The senior signed his letter of intent to run cross country at the University of Missouri Nov. 14. He finished 7th overall in the Class 3 State Championship Nov. 4.



JAMES HOWEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior Maddy Bruder (8), senior Taylor Linenberger (2), sophomore Katelyn McKinnis (17) and freshmen Katie Duncan (6) exit the court at UCM Multipurpose building after a 3-1 loss to Central Missouri.

Volleyball falls in first round

JAMES HOWEY
Chief Reporter | @How_Eyeseeit

Northwest volleyball's season ended following the same trend that has plagued it all season: Start off fast and productive, only to lack the same energy in later sets.

The Bearcats played their first

round of MIAA action at Central Missouri in Warrensburg and were the superior team early on.

Northwest put up a hitting percentage of .444 and beat the Jennies in the first set 25-21. The Bearcats seemed to be on the way to their first MIAA tournament victory since 1992.

Coach Amy Woerth said her team executed the gameplan and

dictated the pace in their favor.

"They were confident and we were getting them out of system," Woerth said. "The ability to get after the game plan was there.They had confidence in what we were doing."

The next three sets didn't go Northwest's way. Central Missouri heavily outplayed the visiting squad with substantially more offensive output. The Jennies had hitting percentages of .238, .281 and .378 while the Bearcats had just .139, .083 and .146. Woerth said her team didn't do as good of a job placing the ball in good positions for more kills like Central Missouri did.

"If you looked at where they were digging the ball it was right at the net," Woerth said. "We had no answer for their middles from the standpoint of the transition piece. I thought in the long haul their middle's gave us more trouble than our middle's collectively gave them."

Seniors Darcy Sunderman and Sarah Dannettell were named

to the All-MIAA team. Sunderman received second-team honors while Dannettell earned an MIAA honorable mention. Sunderman said the team had a free flowing pace to them early on that allowed them to succeed but lost that in the other sets.

"I think early on we were just playing free and we were being ourselves but we kind of lost that in the second and third set," Sunderman said. "We started to think a little too much so I think that's what got us."

Northwest dealt with inconsistent play with flashes of brilliance all season in sets or even full matches.

The Bearcats looked on the cusp of reaching another level many times this season. Woerth said her team needed to do better of working together in tough situations.

"I just think from the standpoint of being mentally tough, not allowing things to happen and continuing to figure out how to work together in stressful times you saw

flashes of what we were able to do but you to be able to sustain that over a long haul," Woerth said.

Despite the third straight defeat in the first round of the MIAA tournament, Northwest will head into next year with reasons for optimism. Most of the contributors to the Bearcat's success this season will return. Most notable returners are juniors Maddy Bruder, Sofia Schleppenbach and Olivia Nowakowski.

Bruder was named All-MIAA First Team for the third year. Both Schleppenbach and Nowakowski earned MIAA honorable mention. Freshmen standouts like Morgan Lewis, Maddy Ahrens and Hallie Sidney will also see bigger roles.

"Obviously we have some core returners and we've had some young players that played on the court this year so they're going to be older," Woerth said. "We're going to get after it, grind this spring and be a better team when we step on the court next year."

Postseason woes

YEARS

RECORD

MIAA TOURNAMENT RESULT

2015

15-14

3-0 LOSS

1st Round

2016

22-9

3-0 LOSS

1st Round

2017

17-15

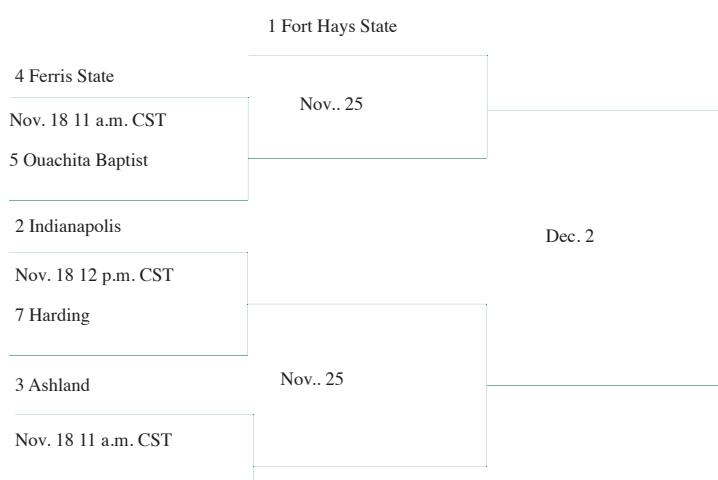
3-1 LOSS

1st Round

SOURCE | BEARCATSPORTS.COM

JOSHUA DALLAS | NW MISSOURIAN

NW FOOTBALL SUPER REGION 3



MHS FOOTBALL CLASS 3 PLAYOFFS



MARYVILLE OFFENSE

33.2 POINTS
PER GAME

150 POINTS
IN PLAYOFF

402 YARDS IN
CLASS 3 QUARTER-
FINAL



AVERAGE 276.8
RUSHING YARDS
PER GAME

BLAIR OAKS OFFENSE

44.8 POINTS
PER GAME

216 POINTS
IN PLAYOFF



SCORED 30
POINTS IN 12 OUT
OF 13 GAMES

SOURCE: NFHS NETWORK/HUDL

TAYLOR GONNERMAN | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville primed for semifinal battle

JOSEPH ANDREWS

Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15

All season long, Maryville football has worked to show there is no such thing as a down year.

Now, one win sits between the Spoofhounds (11-2) and a trip to the Class 3 State Championship game.

"It's safe to say nobody expected us to be here," junior Eli Dowis said. "We just want to keep shutting down the doubters."

Maryville travels to Jefferson City to take on Blair Oaks (13-0) Nov. 18. It is the first time both



NEXT GAME

Maryville @ Blair Oaks
Nov. 18 @ 1 p.m.

"He's every bit as good as the quarterbacks we've seen throughout our season," Webb said.

Blair Oaks held McCluer South-Berkeley to 233 yards on 66 plays. Both Bulldog touchdowns were scored on runs within the Falcon 10 yard line.

The Falcons have allowed more than 16 points just twice this season.

"We'll approach this thing (do-

“

It's safe to say nobody expected us to be here. We just want to keep shutting down the doubters

-Eli Dowis

teams have met in Class 3 playoff action.

The Falcons punched their way into the semifinal matchup following a 32-16 victory over McCluer South-Berkeley (10-1) Nov. 11.

The win avenged a 34-10 loss to the Bulldogs in the 2016 quarterfinals. Blair Oaks has appeared in the semis once since moving up from Class 2 to Class 3 in 2014.

"With that program, it's something we've seen from afar," Maryville coach Matt Webb said. "We'll get a first hand knowledge of what they are this weekend."

The Falcons run a spread offense and average 44.8 points a game. They have posted 30 or more points on the scoreboard 12 times.

Blair Oaks has also scored a combined 216 points since opening the playoffs four games ago Oct. 20.

"I see a team that is lighting up the scoreboard," Webb said. "You look through their scores throughout playoff time, they have really been able to put up some 70 point games."

The Falcons racked up 428 yards in the Class 3 quarterfinals. Approximately 237 were thrown by Nolan Hair.

The junior quarterback finished the game 25-for-44 throwing three touchdowns and two interceptions. Hair also racked up 131 yards on the ground.

ing) whatever we need to do to win," Webb said. "It's an offensive, defensive and kicking environment. Especially in the state semifinals."

Maryville secured a spot in the semifinals following a 19-13 victory over Center (10-3) Nov. 11. The Spoofhounds ran for 297 yards and two touchdowns.

"It takes a lot of courage when everyone knows you're going to run to go and run the football," Webb said.

Momentum continues to push the Spoofhounds forward as they work to overcome the team's two regular season losses.

"This team works hard," junior Tyler Houchin said. "Since the two losses we have been tighter than ever. On the field, off the field, we are a tight nit group."

The spark starts during the coin toss as the team links arms as a sign of unity while captains meet at center field.

"We are brothers," Houchin said. "We all love each other."

The winner of the semifinal battle moves on to play Luthern South (9-3) or Mt. Vernon (9-4) in the Class 3 State Championship at the University of Missouri Nov. 25.

"I'm very proud of our kids and the focus and determination they have had all season to get to this point," Webb said.



ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior Eli Dowis makes a run toward the end zone during the Spoofhounds' 19-13 win over Kansas City Center Nov. 11. The Spoofhounds will play Blair Oaks Nov. 18 in Jefferson City at 1 p.m. for a shot at the State Championship.

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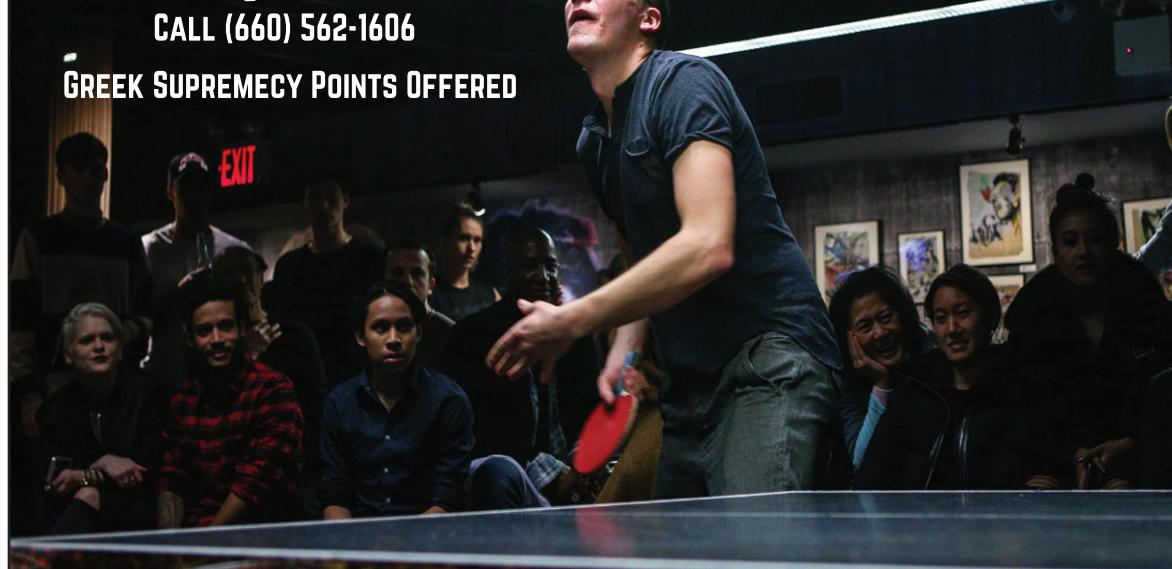
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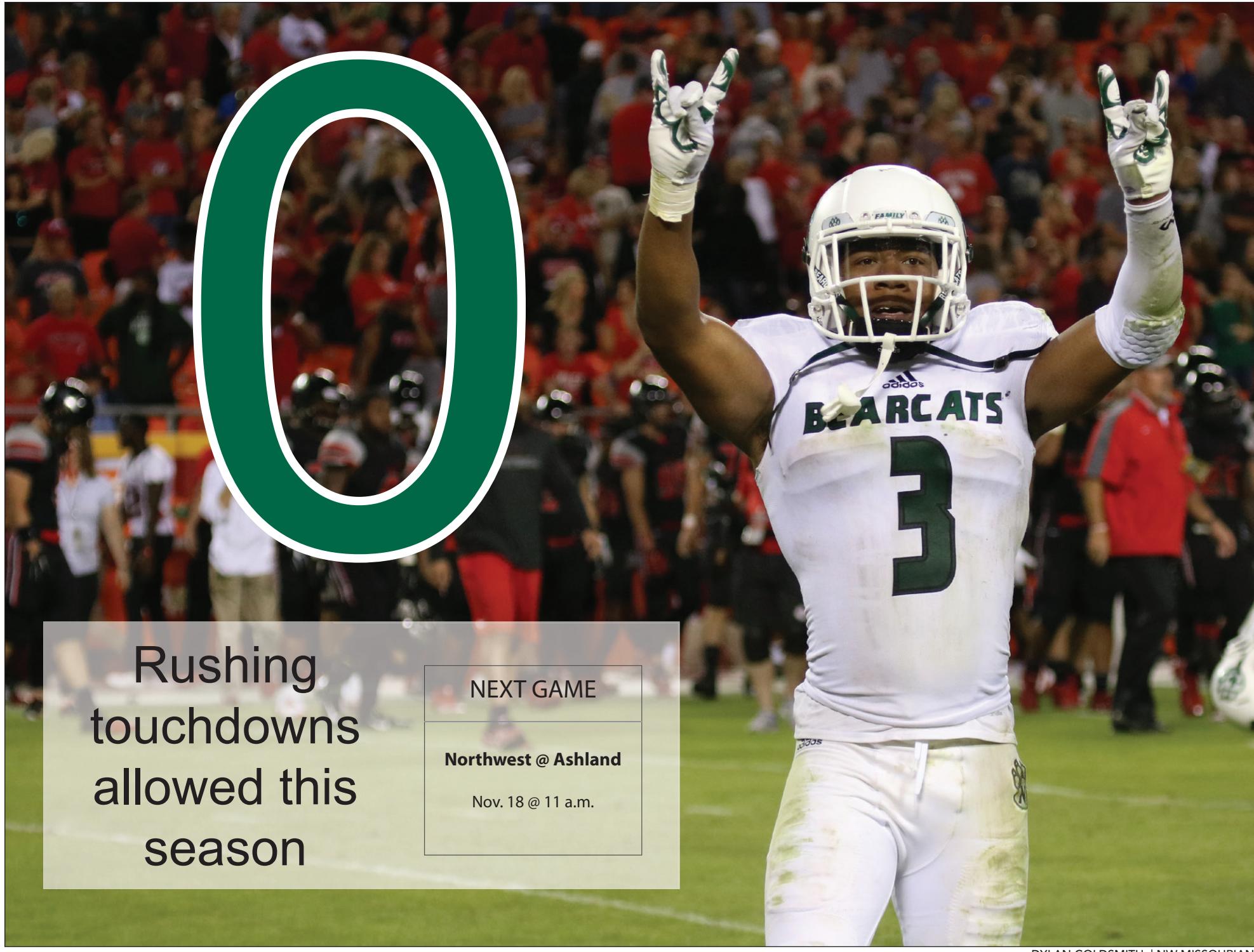


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Rushing
touchdowns
allowed this
season

NEXT GAME

Northwest @ Ashland

Nov. 18 @ 11 a.m.

Safety Edward Richey leads the team in solo tackles (29). The senior captain is also third on the team in total tackles (44). Northwest will kickoff against No. 3 Ashland University Nov. 18 at 11 a.m.

2nd
Rushing
Defense 1.9
Yards
per
Rush

100
Tackles
for Loss

1st
Total
Defense

3.45
Yards
per Play

39
Sacks

SOURCE: NCAA.COM

MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN

Road work ahead

Rich Bearcat playoff tradition plays factor in first round duel

ISAIAH SWANN

Sports Editor | @iswanny10

When Bearcat football touches down in Cleveland, Ohio, the 2017 playoffs will be near and it's clear, their hands will be full.

For the Bearcats, coach Rich Wright has concocted the nation's top defense, allowing 10 passing touchdowns and 0 rushing touchdowns through all 11 games.

"I thought it was pretty cool," Wright said. "It's a pretty amazing accomplishment. To not give up a rushing touchdown...it's remarkable."

No. 13 Northwest (9-2) will have to drive an extra hour but when 11 a.m. hits Nov. 18, the Bearcats will be primed and ready to face off with No. 3 Ashland (10-1).

Northwest's defense has been led by senior captain safety Edward Richey. The Kirkwood, Missouri native leads the team in solo tackles (29) and is third in total tackles (44).

"It's been a lot of fun this year," Richey said. "It was great to see a lot of guys buy into what we're doing this year."

Last season Northwest's defense flexed its destructive power with what one playoff coach described as the 'death triangle'. It consisted of defensive linemen Collin Bevins and Cass Weitl as well as linebacker Jacob Vollstedt.

In 2017, the Bearcats have gotten a little help from everyone.

"I think my favorite part about this team defensively this year is we've done it without any true superstars," Wright said. "It's really been a team effort."

Though the defense has been somewhat mystical, Ashland will have its own ace in senior Travis Tarnowski. The 5-foot-11-inch quarterback is the program's all-time leader in touchdown passes (80) and has only thrown one interception all season.

"He's a playoff caliber quarterback," Wright said. "He does a great job, he doesn't make mistakes, he's decisive with his reads, he's got a big arm and he's very mobile."

Not only is Tarnowski a dual-threat, multi-tooled gun-slinger, he also likes to punt. Wright said at the weekly Northwest Athletics press conference that he has the freedom to do it all.

"He's got the liberty to check it out, but ultimately there's been several times where he's gone for it on fourth down.... deep in his own territory," Wright said. "He's got the green light to do that so we just have to be ready to play."

Wright said the temperature is expected to be high 40's and the forecast calls for rain. For the Bearcat's, they would like nothing less.

"It's a typical Northern built team," Wright said. "Their roster is completely from the state of Ohio which has phenomenal football. They are physical, they're big but we still feel like we match up pretty well."

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMissouriNews.com

Defensive stability carries No. 13 Bearcats in Wright direction

first time since 2012.

Turnovers and lack of offensive production caught up with the Bearcats as they committed nine turnovers and totaled just 22 points in their two losses. In the final game of the season however, the offense found some rhythm with senior quarterback Jonathan Baker replacing senior Zach Martin. The Bearcats beat Missouri Western State 30-0 to close out the regular season.

The losses came to Fort Hays State University and Pittsburg State University in back-to-back weeks.

This is the first time since the 2001 season that a Bearcat team has lost in back-to-back weeks. Along with this streak of 15 seasons without back-to-back losses, there were other firsts for the Bearcats this year.

This year ended a streak of four straight Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference titles, and is just the sixth time in the past 20 seasons the Bearcats failed to claim the title. Wright follows previous coaches Dorrel and Mel Tjeersdema as both of them failed to bring the title in their first seasons.

The Bearcats first loss this season ended their 38-game winning streak and left them two wins shy of breaking the Division II record for wins in a row. While these records and milestones gone, one streak that stayed alive is the postseason appearance streak.

With the No. 6 seed in the Super Region 3, the Bearcats extended their streak of making the playoffs to 14 years in a row. At the end of the day the fact that matters for the Bearcats is their season is still alive.

JUSTIN QUICK
Chief Reporter
@jquick88

With the playoffs on the horizon for the Bearcat football team, a glance at some changes may provide answers to issues this regular season.

The first big change that impacted the regular season is new head coach Richard Wright. Wright took over after previous coach Adam Dorrel took the helm at Abilene Christian University.

With any new coach an adjustment period is to be expected, as is the case with Wright.

He spent the past six seasons as the defensive coordinator. His defensive mindset showed through with the Bearcat defense leading the NCAA Division II in three major categories.

The defense shined all regular season, leading in total yards per game allowed (207.6), points per game allowed (8.6) and defensive third down percentage (19.6 percent). Along with these three top statistics the Bearcats rank in the top five in four other categories.

The Bearcats rank second in rushing yards allowed per game (57.3), third in defensive passing efficiency (87.59) and first downs allowed (136), and fourth in defensive fourth down percentage (23.5 percent).

Despite the stingy defense, the Bearcats dropped two regular season games for the

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